
MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE NORTH WEST REGIONAL COLLEGE HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS, COMMENCING 1800

PRESENT:

Prof M Ó Néill, Governing Body Temporary Chair
Ms M Breslin
Mrs D Creevy
Mrs S Fisher
Mrs M Gormley
Dr K Kennedy
Mrs J McKeever
Mrs S McMahan
Mr L Murphy, Principal & Chief Executive
Mr B O'Neill
Mrs C Shongo
Mr F Smyth
Mr P Thompson
Ms V Toland

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr P McKeown, Finance Director
Dr C O'Mullan, Director of Curriculum & Academic Standards
Ms S Kelly, HR Manager
Ms G Moss, Head of Client Services
Mrs K Moore, Head of Quality Enhancement (until 1832)
Mrs É Doherty, Secretary to the Governing Body

105.1 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

The Governing Body Temporary Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Mr S Gillespie.

105.2 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS/DECLARATIONS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no conflict of interest declarations. There were no declarations of any other business.

105.3 DRAFT INTERIM SELF EVALUATION AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2023/24 –

Dr C O'Mullan, Director of Curriculum & Operations and Mrs K Moore, Head of Quality Enhancement

➤ PREVIOUSLY ISSUED TO ALL MEMBERS

Report 1	Presentation
Report 2	FE SER QIP Submission Presentation (Dr L Warren DfE)
Report 3	Draft Interim Self Evaluation and Quality Improvement Plan 2023/24
Report 4	Annexes A, B, C

Dr C O'Mullan introduced Mrs K Moore to the meeting. The Draft Interim Self Evaluation and Quality Improvement Plan 2023/24 (Report 3) was sent out to members pre-Christmas to review. The document must be submitted to the Department (DfE) by 22 January 2024.

Dr C O'Mullan provided the context of the self-evaluation process. Three main areas looked at were leadership and management, outcomes for learners and quality and provision. All these areas are inter connected.

Mrs K Moore followed by apprising the Board with the aid of a Power Point presentation (Report 1). This included the timeline to date on the process. It was highlighted that the HE Report is now included within the Draft Interim Self Evaluation and Quality Improvement Plan.

The College awarded itself an overall performance rating as 'good' for the reporting year. This rating has been informed by the KPIs. Work continues to improve retention, achievement and success rates. Essential Skills continues to be a high-risk area. Following submission, the Department (DfE) will review and grade the College accordingly.

A discussion followed and it was noted it is evident that quality is embedded in the College however further focus needs to be on the social value. Comments were noted that the document is vast in content and needs condensed and refined. It was suggested this matter could be raised in the forthcoming Strategy Day.

Mrs K Moore left the meeting at this juncture.

The Governing Body confirmed they had received and reviewed the submission including the Quality Improvement Plan of prioritised key actions. The Governing Body have confirmed full assurance is being provided for 2023/24 (Annex A).

The Governing Body confirmed that for the 2022/23 academic year and up to the date of signing the return they had oversight of academic governance arrangements during the 2022/23 academic year (Annex C).

PROPOSED, Mrs J McKeever

SECONDED, Mrs C Shongo

105.4 PRINCIPAL & CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS – Mr L Murphy

The Principal reported that consultations have taken place with the required Trade Unions in relation to the Reform to Save Scheme.

The Finance Director reported there has been no further correspondence from the Department (DfE) on the 2024/25 budget position.

105.5 GOVERNING BODY CHAIR'S BUSINESS – Prof M Ó'Néill

The Governing Body Chair reported that Ms L Watson, Director of FE (DfE) and Ms M Doherty, Deputy Secretary, Skills and Education Group (DfE) will be joining the Board for the Strategy Day.

Mrs J McKeever has given notice that she will stepping down from her role as Chair of the Education Committee and member of the Board.

The Governing Body Chair thanked Mrs McKeever for her work in this capacity.

An expression of interest will be sent to the relevant Education Committee members to consider taking on the role as Chair to that Committee.

Report 1 Draft College Development Plan 2023/24

The Governing Body Chair reported that Board approval was received for the Draft College Development Plan in December 2023. Dr C O'Mullan thanked Governors for their feedback and the Plan was submitted to the Department on 18 December 2023.

A conversation took place on sustainability, the work ongoing in the College and the need to collaborate with the Department (DfE) to drive this agenda.

It was agreed to invite Ms F Moran, Sustainability Champion to the March 2024 Board meeting.

105.6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Finance Director provided an update on the Springtown Redevelopment Project matter. The adjudication process has been completed. A meeting took place in December 2023 with OHMG. Mediation may now follow.

105.7 RESERVED BUSINESS – taken separately

The Governing Body Chair brought the meeting to a close at 1918. Reserved Business followed.

Date of next meeting: 19 January 2024

Signed: _____



Prof M Ó' Néill, Governing Body Temporary Chair

Date: 9 April 2024